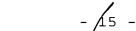
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CLAIMS:

- 1. A method for oxidising an inorganic species in an aqueous solution comprising the steps of:
- (i) supplying an exidisable source of sulphur, and oxygen to the solution; and
- (ii) irradiating the solution with UV light such that the species is oxidised.
- 2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the oxidisable source of sulphur is SO_3^{2-} , $SO_2(g)$, aqueous SO_2 , HSO_3^{-} , $S_2O_3^{2-}$, $S_4O_6^{2-}$
- 3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the inorganic species is present in the aqueous solution in trace quantities
- 4. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding

 15 claims wherein the inorganic species is arsenic, manganese, cerium, and/or/iron
 - 5. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the wavelength of UV light is less than 300nm.
 - 6. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein dissolved oxygen is derived from air.
 - 7. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein dissolved oxygen is derived from a gas source with an oxygen partial pressure of about 0.2 atmospheres.
- 25 8. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the aqueous solution is one of: drinking water, industrial waste water, or an industrial process liquor.
- 9. A method for oxidising inorganic species in an aqueous solution substantially as herein described with reference to the Examples.